

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

WORKSHOP TO DISCUSS
FISH AND WILDLIFE
MITIGATION PLAN OR
THE DICKEY - LINCOLN SCHOOL LAKES
HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

AUGUSTA, MAINE

NOVEMBER 15, 1979

SHARON GRAVES FLOYD, CHAIRPERSON
JOSEPH M. LUPSHA, RECORDER

SUBMITTED TO THE
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW ENGLAND DIVISION
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

NOVEMBER 30, 1979

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SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

PUBLIC WORKSHOP

DICKEY - LINCOLN SCHOOL LAKES

FISH & WILDLIFE MITIGATION PLAN

APPENDIX K

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

NEW ENGLAND DIVISION, CORPS OF ENGINEERS

WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Thursday, November 15, 1979, Room 113, State Office Building

Augusta, Maine

Though the very purpose of a public workshop is to invite comments and criticism on a proposed course of action, all of the participants in the November 15, 1979, workshop in Augusta, Maine, with the exception of neutral representatives from two Federal agencies, expressed intense dissatisfaction with the draft Fish and Wildlife Mitigation Plan. The dissatisfaction arose from disputes over the quality of the data and assumptions used in the plan, from disagreements over the feasibility of proposed measures, from skepticism about the validity of the concepts of mitigation, and from opposition to the construction of the Dickey-Lincoln School Lakes Hydroelectric Project.

It is the opposition to the Dickey-Lincoln project itself which overshadowed the mitigation workshop proceedings, an opposition rooted in three basic values, none mutually exclusive. First, a number of workshop participants, representing conservation and sportsman interests, view the essentially natural character of the St. John River Valley as having inherently greater worth than any benefits which might accrue from its hydroelectric generating potential. As such then, the river valley and its ecosystem have an inestimable and irreplaceable value, a value which if lost cannot be mitigated by any measures. In fact, any mitigation measures become suspect as false promises, and viewed as contradictory and misleading.

Second, workshop participants representing landowner interests are opposed to the construction of the Dickey-Lincoln project because they will be dispossessed of their lands. To them the land has greater value for its timber production, itself a potential source of energy, than does its conversion to a source of hydroelectric power. The Mitigation Plan, which would nearly double the landowner's acreage lost to timber production, is a cause to them for further alarm, alarm heightened by other social and political pressures upon their holdings. Implied was that acquisition of land for mitigation purposes would likely be difficult and fraught with legal wrangling.

Third, most participants favor investments in alternative sources of energy or methods of energy conservation which, in their view, have equal or greater energy potential and lesser environmental consequences than would Dickey-Lincoln. Mitigation for those environmental impacts to them seems within the realm of possibility.

Skepticism about the validity of the mitigation process itself was underscored by the disparity between the redressive measures cited as needed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and those detailed by the Army Corps of Engineers, a disparity widened by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's recent upward revision of mitigation acreage estimates from 160,000 acres to 300,000 acres. When directly queried, however, as to whether or not U.S. Fish and Wildlife's measures were more palatable than those proposed by the Corps, most workshop participants would not admit support for either plan, arguing that the disagreement between the two Federal agencies was illustrative of the inadequacy of the concept of mitigation itself as applied in this case. Landowners, of course, would suffer even greater losses under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife proposal.

Concerns about the seeming incompleteness of proposed mitigation activities raised additional doubts about the efficacy of mitigation. Two participants, George C. Sawyer of the Dunn Timberlands and Cheryl Ring of the Maine Audubon Society charged that much of the Mitigation Plan and proposed expenditures are devoted to data acquisition rather than to explicit measures, a situation which implies that it is not currently known how to ameliorate for some species the environmental impacts resulting from the construction of the Dickey-Lincoln project. In other instances workshop participants argued that the plan represented no mitigation at all, an argument directed particularly to management of the forest for deep woods species and for the measures proposed for fisheries mitigation. On the latter point, Lyndon Bond of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife called attention to the sizeable discrepancy between the proposed annual expenditures for wildlife mitigation and for fisheries mitigation, noting that his department already expends in the St. John Region an amount in excess of the \$46,000 suggested by the Army Corps of Engineers.

Whether or not the Mitigation Plan is incomplete without vigorous sports fisheries development was warmly contested, with a variety of individuals arguing that the inclusion of such measures was warranted. When asked why the arguments for the benefits of such a fishery had not been made during previous environmental impact workshops and hearings, Lyndon Bond noted that the original low valuation given to fisheries development in Dickey-Lincoln had been a strategic decision, a position that has now changed.

Three other general concerns about the completeness of the Mitigation Plan were raised in regards to what the effects a major spruce budworm epidemic would have on the mitigation efforts, whether or not the Corps had adequately accounted for the current level of forestry management for wildlife purposes in the proposed mitigation area, and whether or not mitigation measures for the transmission line should be included. Workshop participants felt that a major infestation of spruce budworm could negate the efforts at mitigation and that such consequences needed to be more fully addressed in the Mitigation Plan. Additionally, representatives of four major landowner companies and of the Natural Resources Council of Maine argued that current timber management practices are already favorable to wildlife and are inadequately acknowledged in the Corps' assessment, suggesting that the Mitigation Plan offered by

the Corps would only marginally increase wildlife benefits. Several participants proposed that the mitigation lands remain in the possession of current landowners, and one, Thomas Eubanks of International Paper, indicated a willingness to work out a cooperative timber-wildlife management plan with State agencies for its affected acreage. Last, some participants argued that although the assessment of and plans for the mitigation of the impacts of a transmission line are under the aegis of the Department of Energy, the Mitigation Plan for Dickey-Lincoln is incomplete without such detailed considerations.

Workshop participants questioned the speculative or untried nature of some proposed mitigation measures, particularly those related to fisheries development and wetlands management. Since no comparable examples exist elsewhere, participants challenged the conclusion that the Dickey-Lincoln impoundment will foster a naturally recurring brook trout fishery. Further disagreement was voiced over whether or not the use of beaver will create a desirable or appropriate wetlands habitat, and whether or not measures such as spawning channels in streams and artificial barriers to create miniature impoundments around the Dickey-Lincoln School Lakes will be feasible given the harsh conditions, deep freezes, and ice scouring characteristic of northern Maine winters. Indeed, several participants objected to using any artificial enhancements at all in the mitigation area.

Another recurrent concern throughout the workshop was the appropriateness of the valuation and quantifying methods used: emphasis upon "habitat units" rather than upon the quality and distribution of wildlife species; use of different measures for wildlife than for fish, e.g. "habitat units" versus "biomass"; and use of certain fishery measurements such as "stream mileage" in preference to "surface area" and without distinguishing the character of the waterways under discussion.

Frequent questions arose over whether or not the management practices applied in the mitigation area will be consonant with State law and regulations, over what the relationships will be among various Federal and State agencies in administering the area, and over who will actually administer the plan. On the latter point many participants argued that mitigation could and should be achieved by the lands remaining in private ownership, though in the absence of that, a State role was preferred. Of particular moment to participants was the issue of the compatibility of the plan with the management of the Allagash Waterway. For many, the mitigation process itself suffers some loss of credibility in the absence of detailed descriptions of jurisdictional responsibilities among government agencies.

Apart from the general or illustrative nature of much of the workshop discussion, a number of comments were made on narrower topics or details in the Mitigation Plan. For purposes of conciseness they are noted in abbreviated form and in the order in which they apply to the draft document, Fish and Wildlife Mitigation Plan.

- The validity of the authorized interest rate of 3-1/4% and the current water resource rate of 7-1/8% were challenged as being inaccurate reflection of costs.
- Skepticism was voiced over the feasibility of the intensive forest management procedures and the ability to increase the carrying capacity of the habitat to the degree cited by the Corps, particularly in light of the potential of a major spruce budworm infestation in the mitigation area. Participants were asked to provide assessments of the impact of the spruce budworm to the Corps. Additionally, the projected rate of timber growth was questioned.
- Representatives of one landowner argued that the timber rotation ages for various species are not specified and need to be addressed in the plan.
- The costs cited for road construction and maintenance was thought to be too low by some participants. Others expressed concern over the density of the road mileage and its potential impact on deep woods species.
- The practicality and desirability of reliance on beaver for wetlands management worried some participants, and others objected to the use of artificial barriers or enhancements in either the mitigation area or the Dickey-Lincoln impoundments.
- Though mitigation of the effects of the transmission line are within the jurisdiction of the U.S. Department of Energy, at least one participant felt the topic should be fully explored in the current document. Skepticism was raised over the Corp' assertion that habitat value will be increased along the transmission line right-of-way, especially in light of the possibility of regular use of herbicides.
- The mitigation of the impacts on deer were subject to considerable discussion. Particular concern was evinced that though the plan will double the carrying capacity of the habitat for deer, a potential doubted by some, the plan obscures the fact that there will be a considerable overall net reduction in the number of deer in the project and mitigation region. Great Northern Paper Company noted that it already had 4,500 acres of managed deer yards in the mitigation area, though a commentator from the audience expressed his belief that the Corps' plan was an improvement over current practices. Uneasy with the notion of a special hunting season, participants sought a humane way to deal with the deer displaced by the impoundment. Additionally, it was argued that the monies set aside for deer research were inadequate, and that the relationship between moose and deer on mitigation lands needed to be explored more fully, particularly in view of the brain worm parasite and of competition for browse.

- Intensive forest management practices were viewed as inimical to deep wood species, particularly bear, bobcat, and lynx. George C. Sawyer of Dunn Timberlands argued that bear, particularly females, do not range widely, in contradiction to an assertion in the Mitigation Plan.
- It was argued that mitigation measures should not await the completion of the hydroelectric project, but proceed immediately should the project be authorized.
- The part of the plan devoted to fisheries mitigation provoked heated debate. Despite the Corps' assessment that the quality of the region's brook trout fishery would be maintained, though as an exchange of numbers of fish for biomass, this assertion was challenged by a number of participants. Noting the Corps' arguments against a put-and-take brook trout fishery, that the "limited amount of macroinvertebrate fauna in the littoral zone would provide minimal forage to sustain such a fishery", participants argued that that same condition would inhibit a natural brook trout fishery. The feasibility of introducing spawning channels, artificial impoundments to reduce the effects of draw-down, and like measures were viewed with skepticism and disapproval by many participants.
- The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife maintained its position that a lake trout fishery is desirable and feasible. It contended that modifications in the construction of the impoundment area and the introduction of a fish hatchery were warranted.
- As noted previously, the appropriateness of the measurements used, e.g. stream mileage versus surface area, etc., was contested. The estimates of "angler days" were also viewed as inadequate.

The considerable disparity in views over the adequacy of the fisheries Mitigation Plan clearly require at least three agencies - the Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Game-to reassess their information and priorities and come to some understanding.

- Though it was recognized that some plant species unique to Maine are not endangered, James Briggs of Caribou felt, and others concurred, that they should be acknowledged in the report.

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The science and process of environmental mitigation is a young and imperfect one, as evidenced by the document and workshops under review here. Large scale projects, such as the Dickey-Lincoln School Lakes Hydroelectric Project, place special strains on that process and on those individuals responsible for plotting necessary measures. It is a task that a Solomon would shun.



Sharon Graves Floyd
Chairperson
November 30, 1979

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

PUBLIC WORKSHOP

DICKY - LINCOLN SCHOOL LAKES
FISH & WILDLIFE MITIGATION PLANAPPENDIX K
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTDEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NEW ENGLAND DIVISION, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

Thursday, November 15, 1979, Room 113, State Office Building
Augusta, Maine

PARTICIPANTS (Formal)AFTERNOON SESSION

Lyndon H. Bond Chief of Fisheries	Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries Augusta, Maine
David Carlisle	Prentiss & Carlisle Company Bangor, Maine
David Courtemanch Biologist	Maine Dept. of Environmental Protection; Augusta, Maine
Thomas Eubanks Wildlife Specialist	International Paper Company Augusta, Maine
Robert H. Gardiner, Jr. Executive Director	Natural Resources Council of Maine Augusta, Maine
E. Bart Harvey Director of Forest Management	Great Northern Paper Company Millinocket, Maine
Richard Jones Executive Director	Sportsman's Alliance of Maine Augusta, Maine
Cheryl Ring Public Policy Director	Maine Audubon Society Falmouth, Maine
George C. Sawyer Agent	Dunn Timberlands Ashland, Maine
Col. Max Scheider Division Engineer	New England Division U.S. Army Corps Engineers Waltham, Massachusetts
George A. Smith Staff Assistant	Office of Congressman David F. Emery Maine First District Augusta, Maine
Ormond A. Staples President	Ducktrap Chapter Trout Unlimited Thomaston, Maine
Wallace Stickney Environmental Impact Officer	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Boston, Massachusetts

PARTICIPANTS (Informal)

Burdett Barrett Chief Hydroelectric Impact Study Section	Corps of Engineers, Waltham, Massachusetts
Joseph Chaisson Senior Planner, Resources Division	State Planning Office Augusta, Maine
Malcolm Givens Project Manager	Dickey-Lincoln, Corps of Engineers Waltham, Massachusetts
Jan Goldman Wildlife Biologist	Corps of Engineers Waltham, Massachusetts
Herbert Hartman Director	Maine Bureau of Parks & Recreation Augusta, Maine
John Mathies Private Consultant (Terrestrial)	Colorado
William Neidermyer	Fish & Wildlife Coordination Contact U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Concord, New Hampshire
Edward Sprague	Stratton, Maine
Donald Strout Regional Forester	International Paper Company Augusta, Maine

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Workshop Chairperson - Sharon Graves Floyd; Hallowell, Maine
Recorder - Joseph M. Lupsha; Augusta, Maine

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The Dickey-Lincoln School Lakes Fish and Wildlife Mitigation Plan Public Workshop Afternoon Session commenced at 2:15 p.m. on Thursday, November 15 in Room 114 of the State Office Building in Augusta, Maine, with 49 in attendance.

SCHEIDER Introductory remarks were made by Col. Max Scheider, including advisement that any written comments stimulated by the Plan and the Workshop should be mailed to Mrs. Floyd at 53 Middle Street, Hallowell, Maine 04347 by November 23. Her telephone number was also given: (207) 623-9422. The audience was further advised that the Chairperson's Report was due by November 30.

FLOYD Chairperson Floyd advised the participants and observers in the audience, that it would facilitate productive discussion if remarks concerning the Plan concentrated on the methodology utilized in the report; the application of the methodology; the quality and integrity of the data; and the quality of the conclusions.

She requested that to establish an orderly sequence of discussion that those who had statements to make covering the overall Plan speak first, while those who wished to address only a certain segment of the Plan as outlined in the Table of Contents wait until the specific subject area was reached. (The Table of Contents of the Mitigation Plan was utilized in numerical order for discussion.) At the end of the Workshop, further General Comments would be welcomed.

SAWYER

George C. Sawyer - Mr. Sawyer was the first formal speaker. He read from a prepared statement (See Addendum A). He opened his remarks with the comment that he has spent 40 years in the northern Maine area in forest land management activities and as an observer of its ecology. He expressed the view that a proper Mitigation Plan could not be prepared at this time because of a lack of enough factual data on the wildlife and habitat in the area, and declared that the number of studies proposed in the Plan supports his contentions. He quoted the last sentence of the first paragraph on page 7 of the Draft, "Research monies will be provided at project cost to expedite the acquisition of necessary species data." He further commented that he disagrees with the fifth paragraph on page 22 concerning "bear ranging"; also, on page 24, the first paragraph under 2.3.2 that implies that snowshoe hare populations are encouraged by "deep woods management" techniques. He also believed that acreage set-asides for certain animal and bird species will not mitigate the problems. He also disagreed with the implication that land had to be acquired by Government to effectuate mitigation. He believes that cutting operations now in progress by private owners will mitigate.

GARDINER

Robert Gardiner asked whether the Report cost a reported \$710,000.

BARRETT

Mr. Barrett responded that the cost of the Report (Mitigation Plan Report) was in the \$710,000 figure, but that there are other costs still to be incurred.

GARDINER

Mr. Gardiner stated that he does not agree with the "Concept of Mitigation" as used in the Report, such as gains in Lake Trout fishery compensating for loss of brook trout stream fishery. He contended that "mitigation is not being accomplished by the report." He also cited a lack of clarity in some sections of the Report, and specifically referred to Section 2.2.2 "Objectives" (Habitat Management Plan), which appears as the last paragraph at the bottom of page 6 and the first paragraph on page 7.

Mr. Gardiner also questioned the conclusion on wildlife mitigation which appears as the last paragraph on page 17 of the report under Section 2.2.4. He does not believe there will be an increase in habitat units, and also raised the issue of the impact on wildlife with "assumed" use of herbicides to retard herbaceous growth in the Transmission Line right-of-way. He also inquired as to why there is no detailed analysis of Transmission Line fish and Wildlife impacts in the report. (See Addendum H).

CORPS

Corps' response to Mr. Gardiner. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service policy on mitigation focuses on the maintenance of fish and wildlife habitat rather than one for one replacement of fish or animal species in numbers or other units of measure.

The Transmission Line is not analyzed in any depth in the Corps' mitigation plan because it is the Corps' understanding that the Transmission Line clearing would mitigate or even increase habitat units compared to present conditions (Preliminary Fish and Wildlife Service funding).

FLOYD

Mrs. Floyd added that the Department of Energy, rather than the Corps is responsible for that portion of the Dickey-Lincoln Project.

CORPS

Corps of Engineer respondent then added that until the Transmission Line right-of-way is decided upon by the Department of Energy it is not possible to determine impacts and mitigation needs.

HARVEY

Mr. Bart Harvey read a prepared statement on behalf of his company. (See Addendum B). They opposed the creation of a 100,000 acre forest land management unit where wildlife management needs will be the paramount priority. He emphasized the wood needs for the future, and the on-going shrinkage of the commercial forest land base in the State and Nation through statutes, administrative designation, or governmental policies. He gave statistics on acreage already impacted adversely for timber operations because of governmental action, such as 300,000 acres of their holdings under Maine Land Use Regulation Commission restrictions. The proposed Penobscot Wilderness Waterway could mean restrictions on 19,000 more acres of their lands. He also cited the Indian Land Claim problem, the Appalachian Trail corridor proposal, and other impediments. He said that 40% of the land in the proposed mitigation area, or 41,000 acres, is Great Northern land. It contains about 435,000 cords of merchantable wood, including 130,000 cords equivalent of prime sawtimber which is within the supply area of their Pinkham Lumber \$7½ million annual payroll. The annual sustained yield harvest from their lands in the mitigation townships is the equivalent of 12,500 cords. He said that the loss of the timber volume because of cutting restrictions could curtail their sawmill operation.

SMITH

George A. Smith, Staff Assistant to Congressman Emery, read a Press Release by Congressman Emery dated 11/15/79 (See Addendum C). Congressman Emery stated that "The best fish and wildlife mitigation plan would be one that recommends not building the Dickey-Lincoln Dam." He asked for support of his recent proposal to develop small-site hydro stations as an alternative to Dickey (-Lincoln?). He contended that small-site hydro projects would not have nearly the impact on wildlife and fisheries that the Dickey project would have, and may possibly even be considered beneficial to fish and wildlife in the areas concerned. He raised the point of the difference between the Corps' mitigation plan proposing 100,000 acres for mitigation, while the Department of Interior (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) recent report calls for 300,000 acres. He contended that the Corps itself has reservations concerning the adequacy

of their Mitigation Plan, and cited a statement on page 5 of the Plan (Section 2.1 second paragraph, first sentence). The statement says, "The spruce-fir bottom lands in the pool areas and the wildlife which they support are in some respects irreplaceable". In his Press Release he also refers to a statement on page 56 of the Plan (first paragraph, first sentence) which states, "For the purposes of this plan (fisheries), the mitigation for resource use may not be an attainable goal". The Congressman also referred to blackflies and mosquitos as an important part of the fisheries food supply and wondered why this aspect of the impact of Dickey-Lincoln was not addressed.

Mr. Smith also stated that solar and energy conservation are better than Dickey.

GARDINER

Mr. Gardiner of Natural Resources Council interjected the view that though the Mitigation Plan might meet the technical requirements of the Law it was still inadequate.

JONES

Richard Jones of the Sportsman's Alliance of Maine declared that he supported Mr. Gardiner's statements.

EUBANKS

Mr. Tom Eubanks of International Paper Company read a prepared statement (See Addendum D). He declared that his company continues to oppose the Dickey-Lincoln School Lakes Project, and does support low-head power generation of small scale and regional (100% Maine) in nature. They feel these types of projects will have a lesser impact on timber and agricultural lands, as well as less impact on wildlife resources.

The proposed Mitigation Plan area includes about 28,000 acres of International Paper Company lands. The Company does not agree with the rationale in the report that Federal acquisition of private land is necessary to solve wildlife problems. The Company believes that more intensive game management is the solution for reduced game populations. They object to government take-over of private lands for a limited management objective, and reminded the Corps that IP Company lands are managed for multiple-use, including improvement of game habitat.

Mr. Eubanks took issue with the philosophy of mitigation which appears to him to ignore the exchange that would take place within the Dickey-Lincoln School Lakes area between terrestrial and aquatic biomasses. He declared that with intensive management of the newly-created reservoir there would be opportunities for a tremendous increase in fish populations and the development of wetland habitat, including waterfowl. Such intensive management would increase the recreational value of the Dickey-Lincoln School Lakes Project. He contended that intensive management of the reservoir area itself is in itself mitigation of the problem, and therefore acquisition of other lands is not necessary.

He said that International Paper Company is willing to offer a counterproposal to mandated taking of lands out of private ownership. He said that his company is willing to work with the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission and the Maine

Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to work out a cooperative timber-wildlife management plan for IP Company's portion of the land within the proposed Mitigation Plan area. They are willing to immediately begin such discussions with the two State Agencies. The Company is currently working out details for a wildlife development and research project with the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife on one 15,000 acre tract, and another project concerning deer yard management and timber management will be forthcoming within the next two years. He expressed confidence that they as landowners and the State of Maine can effectively manage lands for both timber and wildlife without Federal acquisition and so large an amount of taxpayers' dollars. He closed by suggesting that the Corps of Engineers might be willing to fund part of such a cooperative project through the State.

FLOYD Chairperson Floyd interjected that the Corps of Engineers does not at this time have the authority to designate who will manage the mitigation area.

RING Cheryl Ring representing Maine Audubon Society made four major points in her remarks. 1) The mitigation scenario given is not an action-oriented plan, but rather is geared to gathering of data. 2) She questioned the assumption that habitat that is destroyed can be "mitigated". 3) Her organization favors low-head hydro dams since they will destroy less wildlife. 4) The Corps Plan proposes 100,000 acres for mitigation, while the U.S. Fisheries and Wildlife Service originally proposed 160,000 acres, and now declare that 300,000 acres are needed. A difference of three to one in acreage needed troubles them. She also declared that Maine Audubon has always supported the multiple-use of lands.

STAPLES Ormond Staples representing the Ducktrap Chapter of Trout Unlimited read a letter prepared for purposes of the Mitigation Plan (See Addendum E). The organization is opposed to the entire Dickey-Lincoln project. They believe that both the environmental and economic trade-offs are unsound. They find the proposed acquisition of 100,000 acres or more of land from private sources as undesirable, impractical, and possibly unattainable, with the prospect of lengthy mitigation. They also question the chances of successfully carrying out the forest management plan. Concerning the fisheries plan, they do not feel that the damage to the brook trout fishery can be "mitigated". They support the Corps' position against the construction of a fish hatchery as a part of the Mitigation Plan, though it is recommended by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and cited the cost of hatchery construction. Mr. Staples also referred to the interest rates used in the Plan for purposes of determining costs of acquisition and management of the proposed mitigation area; $3\frac{1}{4}\%$ and $7-1/8\%$.

FLOYD Chairperson Floyd discussed the reasons for $3\frac{1}{4}\%$ and $7-1/8\%$ of interest rates. The former is the rate Congress has said

the Corps shall use for cost-benefit analysis on public projects; the 7-1/8% of interest rate is the rate the Federal Land and Water Resources Council is authorized to use.

- JONES Richard Jones representing the Sportsman's Alliance of Maine was the next speaker. He referred to a letter written by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and dated November 8, 1979, which noted that an error had been made in their calculations as to the area of land required for mitigation. Formerly, they had recommended 160,000 acres, now 300,000 acres. Error was the failure to annualize all information over 100 years. SAM believes mitigation proposal is environmentally unsound. He reiterated the Alliance's opposition to the Dickey-Lincoln hydro project. Lastly, he asked for dialogue on the difference in viewpoints between the Corps' plan and proposal of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concerning construction and operation of a fish hatchery as a part of the project.
- NEIDERMYER William Neidermyer and Carl Schwartz of the U.S. Fish and
and Wildlife Service, introduced themselves from the audience.
SCHWARTZ
- RING Cheryl Ring of Maine Audubon inquired as to reasons for differences in management potential of mitigation area between Corps' Plan and U.S. Fish and Wildlife.
- NEIDERMYER Concept of mitigation is that area removed (flooded or otherwise radically changed) has lost all of its wildlife, but can through management increase the habitat potential of other lands. Change in U.S. Fisheries and Wildlife mitigation acreage from 160,000 to 300,000 acres was due to failure to include in computer program an annualization factor.
- BARRETT Bud Barrett, Corps of Engineers, stated that they feel that additional human input can increase habitat carrying capacity (to greater degree than U.S. Fisheries and Wildlife estimation).
- FLOYD Chairperson Floyd commented that she could accept as a judgmental matter an increase in carrying capacity of the land through human activity accounting for the difference between 160,000 acres needed for mitigation by the U.S. Fisheries and Wildlife and the 100,000 acres in the Corps' Plan, but when the U.S. Fisheries and Wildlife now says that 300,000 acres is needed, this raises a serious question of analysis.
- JONES Mr. Jones asked whether the U.S. Fisheries and Wildlife (300,000) and Corps' (100,000) acreage figures were derived from the same data base? Also, did U.S. Fisheries and Wildlife and Corps' mitigation analysis use the same data base? No responses made.
- CARLISLE David Carlisle of Prentiss & Carlisle Company declared that his company manages forest land for 200 owners, and within the mitigation plan area they manage 20,000 acres. His company is opposed to the mitigation plan. They are very

upset over the accumulated impact of Governmental claims on private forest lands in Maine, and cited the Indian Land Claim, Appalachian Trail taking, LURC zoning, Allagash Wilderness Waterway, Public Lot mitigation, Tree Growth Tax Law, the Spruce Budworm problem and Excise Tax, and now wildlife mitigation.

He asked whether or not the potential development of mineral mining in the region has been considered as an impact in the wildlife mitigation plan. No response made.

- RING Ring of Audubon stated that the Maine Bureau of Parks and Recreation as well as other State Agencies have plans for the area and whether they were taken into account. She also raised the question as to whether the authority of the State over cutting within one mile of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway would in any way be impeded by implementation of the mitigation plan.
- BARRETT Mr. Barrett of the Corps responded to Ring's question on the Waterway in terms of road construction, by stating that Allagash strip not included in any road construction plans.
- HARTMAN Director Herb Hartman of the Maine Bureau of Parks and Recreation rose to ask two questions. At present all roads and timber harvesting within one mile of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway is subject to approval by his Bureau. Will the present managing agencies continue to retain such authority if the mitigation plan goes into effect? Who will manage the mitigation area?
- SCHEIDER Col. Scheider of the Corps of Engineers responded to Hartman's questions. 1) The Corps has no intent of weakening State authority. 2) The Bureau of Parks and Recreation would be a logical choice to manage the area, but this choice involves a decision by several Federal agencies.
- EUBANKS Eubanks objected to what he considered implications that private landowners along the Allagash Wilderness Waterway are having an adverse impact on the Waterway.
- GARDINER Gardiner of NRC commented that a "human mitigation plan" should also be included among actions concerned with the Dickey-Lincoln project.
- WORKSHOP
BREAK 3:40 p.m. to 3:55 p.m.
- FLOYD Chairperson Floyd asked if there were any further general statements people in attendance wished to make, and since there were none, she asked for comments on the specific sections of the mitigation plan in the order given in the Table of Contents.
- RING Ring of Audubon addressed the Terrestrial Section of the Plan with two questions. 1) Who will manage the lands given in

the mitigation plan, and 2) Who has the authority to see that the Plan is carried out? She added that it was unclear to her as to who will be administering the regulation of timber harvesting to insure compliance, since earlier the Corps had stated that they do not have the authority to designate the administrative authority.

BARRETT

Mr. Barrett of the Corps responded that though the Corps does not have authority to designate the administrative agency for the mitigation lands, they do have the funding authority and therefore they have the responsibility of insuring proper usage of the funds expended by whatever agency is designated to regulate timber harvesting and other portions of the Plan. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the General Accounting Office (GAO) become involved in the decision as to who will administer the Plan.

GARDINER

Gardiner of NRC voiced complaint that his group had only received copies of the Fish and Wildlife Mitigation Plan two weeks ago, and have had only one week to review before this Workshop. He advised that the National Wildlife Federation is one group that had insufficient time to address the Plan properly.

EUBANKS

Mr. Eubanks of IP Company stated that he agreed with Mr. Gardiner's comment.

Some expressions of concern were made that December 7 was given as the final day for responses to the Fish and Wildlife Mitigation Plan Draft.

GIVENS

Malcolm Givens of the Corps suggested that those who need an extension of time beyond December 7, should so advise the Corps.

STICKNEY

Wallace Stickney of the Environmental Protection Agency introduced himself to the Workshop group and audience and stated that the EPA's goal is to do the best job they can to help the Corps so that all aspects of the impact of the Dickey-Lincoln project are presented to decision makers.

He raised the question as to whether the Corps complies with the regulations established under section 404 of the Clean Water Act. No response.

SMITH

George Smith of Republican Emery's Staff asked whether the Corps has powers of Eminent Domain.

SCHEIDER

Col. Scheider responded that the Corps did have such powers but can not be exercised without Congressional authorization.

SMITH

Mr. Smith responded that Congressman Emery is unalterably opposed to taking of land without the agreement of landowners.

Smith also inquired as to why some species are considered for mitigation in the Plan, while others are not, and was the Corps making value judgments.

CORPS Corps responded that when managing for wildlife habitat you are managing for a community of wildlife species, not for single species.

SMITH Mr. Smith asked of the Corps, "What do you do with a species you drive out to accommodate species to be mitigated?"

CORPS Corps responded that the Allagash Wilderness Waterway strip is one outlet under control.

GOLDMAN Jan Goldman of the Corps added that some of Mr. Smith's concerns about some species is addressed in the Plan, including their special needs.

CHAISSON Joseph Chaisson of the State Planning Office inquired as to whether the Corps' approach to mitigate for minor species is included in the costs given in the Mitigation Plan.

GOLDMAN Goldman responded, "Yes".

EUBANKS Eubanks of IP Company commented on Section 2.2.2, "Management of Forest Habitat Types for Wildlife." He declared that timber rotation ages for various species are not specified, and that this was a major omission.

MATHIES Corps Consultant John Mathies stated that timber rotations are based upon the 100 year life of the Dickey-Lincoln Project. Aspen (Popple) would have about a 60 year rotation, while the rotation age for spruce-fir would be 100 to 120 years. He added, that since the Plan is looking for a diversity of forest cover, a place would be found in the Plan for even overmature stands. He also said that forest management is not to be conducted for silvacultural purposes but for wildlife habitat purposes.

STROUT Donald Strout of IP Company stated that their forest management plan uses a rotation age of 60 to 80 years for spruce-fir stands. He emphasized that the question of rotation ages should be addressed.

GARDINER Gardiner of NRC expressed the opinion that the current management practices of landowners may actually be fulfilling the Plan at this time.

MATHIES Corps Consultant Mathies commented that the actions of the present landowners are such that only 100,000 acres for wildlife mitigation is needed, otherwise the recommended acreage would have been greater.

HARVEY Bart of Harvey of Great Northern asked that the record show that the Corps' consultants should talk with forest management

personnel at Great Northern and at Prentiss & Carlisle on their current management activities in the proposed mitigation area. David Carlisle concurred.

- MATHIES(?) Consultant Mathies, or other Corps representative, asked that comments be sent to the Corps on how current landowner practices match mitigation plan.
- HARVEY Harvey of Great Northern commented that there are 4,500 acres of managed deer yards owned by Great Northern in the area.
- CARLISLE Carlisle of Prentiss & Carlisle inquired as to how the Plan enhances "deep woods" management where "no management" is planned.
- GARDINER Gardiner of NRC inquired as to what were the enhancements in the plan for deep woods species of wildlife.
- GOLDMAN Corps representative Goldman responded that Plan attempts to insure the maintenance of mature-overmature forest areas for "deep woods" species of wildlife.
- BARRETT Mr. Barrett of Corps added that with controls they could reduce cutting to a level needed to maintain "deep woods" habitat.
- SPRAGUE Edward Sprague, environmental activist from Stratton, Maine, asked for an explanation from game biologists of what is a "deer yard". No response. He then commented that just because a deer yard habitat is present the current landowners do little between cutting operations and therefore the Corps' Plan is much better.
- STICKNEY Stickney of EPA inquired as to whether herbicide useage is contemplated for the mitigation plan area.
- BARRETT Barrett of Corps, responded, "No".
- EUBANKS Eubanks of IP Company commented that if the deer and moose populations are doubled in the area, there would be no need for herbicides.
- STICKNEY Stickney of EPA asked how the road system in the Plan corresponds to the road system now in the area.
- GOLDMAN Goldman of the Corps responded that the road system would be three times greater than what is now in place (in 1979).
- FLOYD Chairperson Floyd inquired whether the road system contained in the Corps' report differs from what the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Plan recommends.
- NEIDERMYER Mr. Neidermyer of U.S. Fisheries and Wildlife responded that like the Corps' Plan Fisheries and Wildlife plan would entail a much more intensive road system than the currently in place. Their plan for roads similar to Corps.

HARVEY AND EUBANKS Harvey of Great Northern commented that road maintenance costs given in the report are much too low. Eubanks of IP Company agreed.

CORPS Corps responded that figures on maintenance and construction costs for roads were received from two landowners, and they then chose the higher of the two figures. Harvey and Eubanks continued to stress that the road maintenance costs were too low.

STICKNEY Stickney of EPA inquired as to whether the reality of the current spruce budworm problem was an important planning factor?

HARVEY Harvey of Great Northern added that the proposed 20 acre clearcuts for wildlife management purposes were unrealistic because of the budworm problem.

LUPSHA Recorder Lupsha added his concern that "no-spray" buffer zones along lakes and streams, where deer yards are most common, might adversely effect deer yards and deer populations to be mitigated.

BARRETT Barrett of Corps responded that values in the Report had been revised downward because of budworm.

FLOYD Chairperson Floyd requested of audience that they should contribute information to Corps on the impact of spruce budworm on the Plan.

(A dialogue ensued between Barrett and Harvey on the maintenance of mature forest stands.)

Wetland Mitigation Techniques (Section 2.2.3) was the next subject of discussion

GARDINER Gardiner of NRC questioned the success of artificial barriers in northern regions of the country particularly because of ice problems. He also expressed difficulty in accepting the concept of developing small impoundments around Dickey Lake.

RING Ring of Audubon objected to transporting of beaver as part of Mitigation Plan. She believed that this part of Plan diminishes credibility of Plan.

COURTEMANCH David Courtemanch, Biologist for the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, questioned the efficiency of the planned impoundments because of the long seasonal draw-down in Dickey Lake.

RING Ring of Audubon inquired as to whether the Mitigation Plan comes under Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act.

GOLDMAN Goldman of the Corps replied affirmatively to Ring's question.

Transmission Line mitigation (Section 2.2.4) was the next subject of discussion.

- CORPS Corps commented that this is actually the responsibility of the Department of Energy.
- No additional comments made on Section 2.2.4.
- Species Management Plans were next discussed (Section 2.3.3 through 2.3.4).
- RING Ring of Audubon raised questions on overbrowsing by deer and a possible special hunting season before Dickey Dam is closed. She objected to proposals; "deer loss is not possible to mitigate".
- SMITH Mr. Smith, from Representative Emery's Office, objected to statement contained in first sentence of last paragraph on page 20 of report. "Cannot mitigate deer that are lost."
- MATHIES Consultant Mathies reminded the group that the plan addressed mitigation of habitat units, not numbers of a species.
- STAPLES Mr. Staples of Trout Unlimited inquired if there is any humane way that displaced deer could be taken care of.
- MATHIES Mr. Mathies replied that some study is being done on how to induce deer to move.
- GARDINER Gardiner of NRC complained that the body of the Report related to deer is not clear, since he did not realize until the current discussion that though carrying capacity for deer might double, the net number of deer in the Region would be less.
- SMITH Mr. Smith asked if there was deer mitigation when there would be a net loss of 2,000 deer in 100 years. He referred to Table 7 in the Mitigation Plan Report Addendum.
- EUBANKS Eubanks of IP Company voiced his agreement with the question by Mr. Smith. Contended that statement in the body of the report of doubling capacity of deer yards infers doubling of herd, so no loss.
- Public notice was made to audience that "Average Annual" numbers of deer with Project proposal implementation, tabulated in Table 7 of Addendum is "2,584". (Figure not decipherable in many copies of report through poor printing impression).
- Comment was made that \$5,000 a year for research on deer as proposed in Plan is not adequate.
- GARDINER Mr. Gardiner inquired if any other wildlife population census had been made.
- CORPS Corps responded that a moose census has been made by MDIF&W, and that a black bear and bobcat census are underway.
- A consensus of participants and the audience agreed to adjourn the afternoon session of the Workshop; time 5:30 p.m.

PUBLIC WORKSHOP
 DICKEY - LINCOLN SCHOOL LAKES
 FISH & WILDLIFE MITIGATION PLAN

Thursday, November 15, 1979, Room 113, State Office Building
 Augusta, Maine

PARTICIPANTS (Formal)

EVENING SESSION

Lyndon H. Bond Head	Fisheries Division Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Augusta, Maine
Ezra J. Briggs Esquire	Environmentalism Caribou, Maine
Thomas Eubanks Wildlife Specialist	International Paper Company Augusta, Maine
Robert H. Gardiner, Jr. Executive Director	Natural Resources Council Augusta, Maine
Col. Max Scheider Division Engineer	New England Division U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Waltham, Massachusetts
Ormond A. Staples President	Ducktrap Chapter Trout Unlimited Thomaston, Maine
Wallace Stickney Environmental Impact Officer	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Boston, Massachusetts

PARTICIPANTS (Informal)

Burdett Barrett Chief Hydroelectric	Impact Study Section Corps of Engineers Waltham, Massachusetts
James Beltz Consultant (Fisheries)	Normandeau Associates Bedford, New Hampshire
Jan Goldman Wildlife Biologist	Corps of Engineers Waltham, Massachusetts
Paul McCann Director of Public Relations	Great Northern Paper Company Millinocket, Maine
William McCarthy Chief	Impact Assessment Branch Corps of Engineers Waltham, Massachusetts

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The Evening Session Began at 7:40 p.m. There were 37 in attendance.

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LUPSHA Joseph Lupsha, Workshop Recorder, gave a summary of Afternoon Session.

GARDINER Mr. Gardiner, representing the Natural Resources Council, read-dressed the matter of wildlife population.

BARRETT Mr. Barrett of the Corps of Engineers stated that they have population data on deer and moose, but not for other species. They have a contract with the Cooperative Wildlife Unit at University of Maine for bear and bobcat.

EUBANKS Thomas Eubanks of International Paper Company raised a question of the consequences of the increased interaction of moose and deer on mitigation lands and will this result in greater brain worm incidence among moose. No conclusive response given.

GARDINER Mr. Gardiner of NRC inquired if there will be a conflict between beaver and other wildlife.

CORPS Corps spokesman referred him to page 25 of the Report, section 2.3.2 c.

EUBANKS Mr. Eubanks stated that bobcat, lynx, and bear are not "deep woods" species, and questioned the effect of increase in road mileage proposed in the Plan on such species.

BARRETT Mr. Barrett of the Corps of Engineers contended that species such as lynx, bear, and marten do need "deep woods's refuge". Some roads in place at present in the proposed "deep woods" zone will be laid fallow. Road increases will be outside of the "deep woods zone".

FLOYD Chairperson Floyd reintroduced the issue which developed in the afternoon session regarding the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service increasing their appraisal of acreage needed to mitigate the Dickey-Lincoln hydro project from 160,000 acres to 300,000 acres. She asked for comments.

GARDINER Gardiner of NRC - - "double the acreage, double the poison."

STICKNEY Stickney of EPA stated that there would be cost increases.

FLOYD Chairperson Floyd asked for comments on the Avifauna Section, by Sub-section
 Raptors - - No comments
 Waterfowl and other marsh species - - No comments
 Woodpeckers - - No comments
 Granivorous Passerines - - No comments
 Grouse - - No comments
 Woodcock - - No comments
 Insectivorous Passerines - - No comments

BRIGGS

Senator Ezra J. Briggs, Esq. addressed the workshop. He is a Founder and Director of the Natural Resources Council, and involved with a number of other conservation organizations. He is a former State Legislator.

He declared that his "position and contention" is that the Act which requires a wildlife and fisheries mitigation plan is "both absurd and ludicrous". He declared that it was impossible to mitigate the area which would be flooded by the Dickey-Lincoln Project. He cited the great amount of opposition to Dickey-Lincoln at numerous meetings he has attended, as compared to the amount of support for the Project. He declared that the elimination of 240 miles of brook trout habitat cannot be "mitigated". Also, sixty-four miles of "wild river" is not mitigable. He questioned the differences in deer yard habitat acreages (Corps. versus U.S. Department of Fisheries and Wildlife?). He wished to make the group aware that the largest deer yard in Northern Maine is within the Dickey-Lincoln impoundment area.

Mr. Briggs also declared his objection to the fish species that would be encouraged by the dam project. He expressed considerable concern over the future status of the brook trout fishery in the area. He declared that the effort to address the Mitigation Plan is an exercise in futility. He closed his statement by saying "irreplaceable losses are not replaceable".

FLOYD

Chairperson Floyd commented that questions regarding the validity of the mitigation process have been repeated many times during this Workshop.

SCHEIDER

Col. Scheider responded to a question from Senator Briggs concerning whether the Corps had ever turned down a project. The Senator implied that the Corps' self-interest biased their position. The Colonel stated that the Corps has found unacceptable for various reasons nine out of ten project proposals in the New England region. The Corps has to consider the viability of the proposal in terms of cost versus benefits, the need for the project, and its environmental impact.

STAPLES

Mr. Staples of Trout Unlimited asked if the Corps had ever turned down a project of the magnitude of Dickey-Lincoln.

McCARTHY

William McCarthy, Chief, Corps of Engineers added that Cobscook Bay proposal has been turned down, and during the 1960's a major project in Livermore, New Hampshire was turned down. The Livermore, New Hampshire project was turned down "on economic and environmental grounds".

FLOYD

Chairperson Floyd asked for comments on the Herpetofauna Section of the Mitigation Plan. There were no comments.

She then asked for comments on the Mitigation Management Site Section. There were no comments.

She then asked for comments on the Schedule for Mitigation. Implementation. (Section 2.5).

RIGGS Senator Briggs commented that the Mitigation Plan should be put into effect immediately and not delayed until the Dickey land clearing project has been completed.

LOYD Chairperson Floyd explained that the mitigation plan is not a replacement of "one for one" of comparable values, but is an attempt to reduce adverse impacts.

She asked for comments on section 2.5.2, "Mitigation Effort over the Project Life". There were none.

She asked for comments on section 2.6, "Personnel Requirements for Plan Implementation. There were none.

She asked for comments on section 2.6.6, "Road Construction Costs". It was stated that two companies at the afternoon session, believed that maintenance costs were too low.

Comments were solicited on section 2.7.7, "Land Acquisition Costs".

ARDINER Mr. Gardiner of NRC objected to figures given in section 2.7.7. Declared that future values to entire economy are not considered.

There was a discussion as to how "value" is determined.

LOYD Chairperson Floyd asked for comments on section 2.7.8, "Income Generating Activities".

UBANKS Mr. Eubanks of IP Company questioned the validity of the projected timber growth.

ATHIES Corps Consultant Mathies stated that they believe their Plan will increase timber growth over normal growth experienced by paper companies because paper companies have a 20-year cutting cycle versus their planned 10-year cycle.

CCANN Paul McCann of Great Northern stated that Great Northern's softwood timber growth per year is 600,000 cords, which balances with their annual harvest of 600,000 cords.

There was disagreement on whether or not there was a timber growth surplus in the area.

LOYD Chairperson Floyd declared a "break" at 9:00 p.m.

The Workshop resumed at 9:15 p.m. (27 in attendance).

RIGGS Senator Briggs asked if the difference between the Corps' intention to acquire 13,500 acres of deer wintering habitat and the USFWS recommendation to acquire 53,402 acres of deer wintering habitat can be mitigated.

- GOLDMAN Jan Goldman of the Corps of Engineers responded that the Corps cannot mitigate the differences which are based on a wide range of variables. The 13,500 acre figure was based upon Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife data, and an attempt to maximize deer yard acreage within one area, instead of picking up other scattered areas to meet 35,000 acre recommendation of USFWS. Goldman granted that their Plan would mitigate only one-half of Dickey-Lincoln deer yard loss.
- FLOYD Chairperson Floyd asked for comments regarding section 2.8.2, "Mitigation by Habitat Type". There were none.
- She asked for comments on sections 2.8.3 through 2.9.3. There were none.
- The Chairperson then asked for questions and comments on the Fisheries section of the Mitigation Plan (section 3).
- STAPLES Mr. Staples asked if the losses and gains in the Dickey-Lincoln fishery as given in the Report are based on factual information from similar areas elsewhere.
- BELTZ James Beltz of Normandeau Associates, Corps Consultants, answered.
- Conclusions based upon data from natural Maine lakes, and included Normandeau field work. Nothing strictly comparable to Dickey-Lincoln impoundment. There is some Canadian information.
- BOND Lyndon Bond representing the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife addressed the Brook Trout Management Plan. Disagreed with Plan. Presence of bullheads, yellow perch, suckers, etc. will make it difficult to sustain brook trout fishery. The fluctuating water table in the reservoir will adversely affect food supplies for brook trout.
- He stated that lake trout (togue) can tolerate the competition of yellow perch, suckers, etc., as can landlocked Atlantic salmon. Artificial stocking will be necessary.
- The Department has gone on record as supporting the USFW proposal on togue and salmon. He also mentioned that on page 60, under section 3.4.1, there is no mention of food competition by other fish or the short life span of brook trout. Bond referred to the last paragraph on page 55 of the Report, in which is written that a put-and-take brook trout fishery in the impoundment is considered unjustifiable for several reasons, including remoteness from population centers, and the limited amount of macroinvertebrate fauna (brook trout food supply). He believes this paragraph contradicts the Plan's brook trout position. Bond stated, "nothing in Plan to mitigate the brook trout situation caused by Dickey-Lincoln".

CORPS Corps representative directed Mr. Bonds' attention to section 3.5.3.1, "Management Alternatives", to substitute for the lost brook trout fishery.

Bond reiterated that Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife supports the U.S. Fish and Wildlife proposal to substitute the brook trout fishery with a lake fishery.

BRIGGS Senator Briggs referred to various statements contained on pages 54, 55, and 56 of the Report. (Section 3.1, "Fisheries"), as follows:

Page 54, third paragraph, last sentence, "Some limited lake fishing also exists in the numerous ponds that are present----".
 Contends that this understates the current situation.

Senator Briggs continued by saying he disagrees with the third sentence of the first full paragraph on page 55 which states, "These estimates of angler use for Dickey Reservoir through the year 2030 were made assuming that the reservoir fishery will provide a fishing experience of a 'quality' which may equal those of other deep, cold, oligotrophic lakes in Maine."

He also was critical of the first sentence of the next to last paragraph on page 55 which states, "If a native trophy fishery or a fishery for an exotic species could be created, - -"

Senator Briggs was also critical of the content of the first paragraph at the top of page 56.

He also took exception to the percentage figure (14%) given in the first sentence of the second paragraph on page 56.

??? A comment was made that the proposed Dickey-Lincoln impoundment is not strictly comparable to any existing impoundment.

BARRETT Bud Barrett commented that plans for the investigation of the suitability of certain exotic species is included in the Plan.

There was a discussion over the "14%" mileage figure on page 56.

FLOYD Chairperson Floyd inquired if the use of mileage is a standard way of measuring a stream fishery.

BELTZ Consultant Beltz said that his organization uses "mileage".

BOND Mr. Bond of the MDIFW said that his agency uses "surface area", but they do not have data at this time on surface area of streams that would be inundated.

(Considerable dialogue over what unit of measurement should be used in determining fishery size; year-round stream mileage, or rearing and/or growing areas; lineal miles or surface area."

Mr. Bond presented to Recorder three pages of the original U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Report on Fisheries mitigation for Dickey-Lincoln. (Addendum F).

Mr. Bond said that a lake trout fishery can be established in Dickey-Lincoln impoundment with sufficient funding.

BRIGGS Senator Briggs asked what the Corps' standard will be in cutting trees in the impoundment area.

GIVENS Mal Givens of the Corps responded that their standard is to have tops of trees at least five feet below the ten-year frequency draw-down.

BOND Mr. Bond felt that the reservoir should be cleared far lower than five feet below the ten-year frequency draw-down, since lake trout are bottom feeders. The few areas that will be completely cleared to ground level such as near the dam and near bridges will be insufficient for feeding areas.

He also stated that his agency has prepared an estimate of fish needed for stocking of the impoundment.

BARRETT Mr. Barrett of the Corps stated that he would like to see a recreational use analysis made of the proposed lake trout fishery.

He reminded Mr. Bond that at the time of the Dickey-Lincoln EIS Recreational Plan the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife indicated little need for fishery development in the area, because of little use of the present fishery.

(Further disagreement on brook trout fishery.)

BRIGGS Senator Briggs commented that he was opposed to trading a "known fishery" (brook trout) for an "Unknown" (lake trout, etc.), and also declared that the establishment of a hatchery is the only way to have a fishery if Dickey-Lincoln is built.

GARDINER Gardiner of NRC said he is opposed to "artificial enhancements" - - "not desirable".

BRIGGS Senator Briggs commented in a discussion of spawning channels that such channels may work in the South, but not here.

STAPLES Mr. Staples asked of Lyndon Bond whether his department disagreed with the Corps' recommendation that rainbow trout not be introduced into the Dickey-Lincoln impoundment. Bond agreed with the Corps' position.

BOND Mr. Bond of MDIFW would oppose the introduction of brown trout into the River System. Corps Plan also, does not recommend.

Section 3.6, "Estimated Cost of Proposed (fisheries) Plan" was then discussed.

Mr. Bond was critical of the relative planned expenditures to mitigate wildlife impact of \$1,156,385 annually over the life of the Project, as compared to a proposed expenditure of \$46,260 annually for fisheries. The latter amount, he contended was less than his Department currently spends in the Region.

LOYD Chairperson Floyd then asked the group to comment on section 4.0, "Endangered Species".

RIGGS Senator Briggs quoted a statement by Dr. A.E. Brower, Botanist, from Augusta, who has studied in depth the plant species of the St. John Valley. A number of rare species located in the area; not only the furbish lousewort.

ORPS The Corps commented that only species they can consider under the Endangered Species Act are those which are rare nationally. Several on Dr. Brower's list are rare in Maine because they are on the extremes of their botanical range.

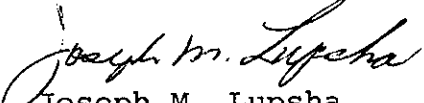
LOYD Chairperson Floyd recommended that plant species found in the area, though not rare in the U.S., but are in Maine, be acknowledged in the Report.

There were no further comments on section 4.0, "Endangered Species".

The Chairperson then asked for any additional comments on any aspect of the Report. There were none.

CHEIDER Col. Scheider asked that if anyone in the audience has any comments to make following the close of the Workshop, to please send them to the Corps in Waltham.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:30 P.M.



Joseph M. Lupsha
Recorder

November 28, 1979

Ashland, Maine
November 14, 1979

DICKY * LINCOLN SCHOOL LAKES

Fish & Wildlife Mitigation Plan

My name is George C. Sawyer. I am and have been for forty years agent for the Dunn Timberlands in Northern Maine. Where my personal observations appear they are based on almost a full life-time in the woods of Northern Maine, including the areas of the St. John and Allagash Rivers and what ^{I've} learned in contacts with woodsmen, trappers, game biologists and study.

I note that the effort of the Army Corps of Engineers is to prepare and recommend a justifiable and feasible as well as viable mitigation plan to Congress, yet I find the plan is filled with plans to study what is being dealt with, because they do not now know, as well as assumptions and some misinformation.

For example, on page 7 the "Draft Environmental Impact Statement" says, "Research monies will be provided at project cost to expedite the acquisition of necessary species data" and that the forest management plan will emphasize individual and group selection as better information on species habitat requirements becomes available.

They further state that the selection of sites for small marsh construction "requires on site examination." They do not now know if or where these are logical.

Likewise they do not now know, and plan population studies, on bear, lynx, bobcat, marten, fisher, fish hawks and eagles and a monitoring study during the clearing of the impoundment to see what happens to the deer. I can tell them that the deer will hang close to the clearing of the impoundment for those four years and that their suggestion to shoot them would be an ideal way to mitigate their starvation when the St. John deer wintering areas in the flowage have been cleared.

The diet of bobcat and lynx is largely dependant on rabbits, with killer cats favoring deer, and the rabbit population is not in the mature forest (page 24).

Bear, except the male, do not range widely as stated. (page 22)

Further items in regard to which they do not now know include saving vegetation in the 910-913 m.s.l. zone, wetland portions, delta impoundments and plantings, but they will be considered.

With the present ruling, DEP will monitor management roads, not the Land Use Regulation Commission which already prescribes for the cutting in deer wintering areas.

The valley of the St. John below Seven Islands soon runs into the high ridge country so that impoundment shores will be largely in hardwood ~~type~~ forest with the softwood lands over most of the flowage flooded and no amount of mitigation planning can replace these territorial bounds for any birds, beavers or other animals, which makes any plan to set aside acreage for them absurd because the niches in the planned mitigation lands are already occupied.

Cutting operations already in progress have and will achieve the Corps objective of converting the extensive even age stands to a variety of age classes in the planned mitigation areas making it unnecessary to purchase these lands.

ADDENDUM "B"

Statement by E. B. Harvey
Director of Forest Management
Great Northern Paper Company
Millinocket, Maine 04462
Corp of Engineers Workshop
Augusta, Maine
November 15, 1979

I am here today to oppose creating a 100,000 acre wildlife habitat area to replace lands and associated wildlife losses attributed to the development of the Dickey-Lincoln School Hydroelectric Project.

In 1977, after months of study, a special committee of the legislature completed an analysis of the State's forest resource and found that....

Maine's forest are the most important productive resource in the state.... and that....

By the year 2,000 Maine will be challenged to help fill a wood shortage.

My purpose in referring to the findings of the legislature committee is to put the proposal for a 100,000 acre wildlife habitat area in prospective. It runs counter to society's dependency on wood and paper products. It runs counter to the interests of the people of the State of Maine, where the forest product industry is the foundation of the economy.

The proposal for a 100,000 acre wildlife habitat area also ignores the substantial reductions in the State's productive forest land base in recent years. While in most cases the lands continue to have sufficient productive capacity to qualify as commercial forest land, they have been withdrawn from timber utilization through statute, administrative designation or exclusive use policies.

Let's consider what has happened, and what may happen to Great Northern's land base.

The Allagash Wilderness Waterway took 16,000 acres.

58,000 acres of public lots were deeded back to the state.

Congress has passed a bill aimed at protecting the Appalachian Trail--3,000 more acres.

If the Dickey-Lincoln Dam is built it will flood 6,700 acres of our forest land and isolate an additional 14,000 acres-plus 1,500 acres for the transmission line.

By State statute, there are 300,000 acres of our lands in protection districts of the Land Use Regulation Commission (LURC) where we have to file a permit or notification and otherwise conform to state mandated restrictions, before we can harvest a tree. By the way, 6,150 of those acres are in the towns which are under discussion today.

There are 66,000 acres in the buffer zone adjacent to the Allagash Waterway.

On the immediate horizon are two other matters which will further reduce the company's forest land base.

The settlement of the Indian Land Claims against the State of Maine. Because of the negotiations still in progress, I will not go into further detail at this time. If you read the newspapers you know considerable land is involved. The second is Great Northern's pledge to cooperate with the State Department of Conservation to see how we can preserve the wilderness value to the West Branch of the Penobscot River. The Federal Bureau of Outdoor Recreation wants 19,000 acres set aside for that purpose under the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Program.

Our Company's experience is multiplied many times when you look at the experience of other paper companies and family firms that own a good percentage of Maine's forest resource.

All this is taking place at a time in history when we are losing thousands of cords of spruce and fir to the spruce budworm epidemic. The epidemic is forcing foresters to change our management policies to protect the States major resource, challenging our profession as it never before has been challenged.

The future is not bright. If we continue to loose the battle with the budworm and our forest land base continues to shrink, the States resources will be severely strained. Today's growth and drain on the commercial forest is on a delicate balance. The future depends on keeping this balance. We can't afford to tip the scale by reducing our potential to produce forest products.

Let me get more specific.

Forty percent of the land under discussion today is owned by Great Northern.... some 41,000 acres. These acres are of particular value to Great Northern because they contain a spruce-fir inventory of 435,000 cords. Of this volume, 130,000 cords is prime sawtimber which is scheduled to be harvested to supply wood to the Pinkham Lumber Co. which is located in Nashville Plantation some 45 miles east of this block of lands. The Pinkham Lumber Co. is a division of Great Northern Paper. In fact the recent expansion at this facility was predicated in part on a wood supply from these towns. This mills has a current payroll of \$7.5 million annually with over 400 employees.

The planned harvest in these towns is approximately 12,500 cords annually. The loss of this volume, in addition to reducing supplies to our mills will disrupt a company logging operation which has been established to harvest wood on these and adjacent townships. This loss would force us to (1) curtail production at mills (2) cut areas which are not ready for harvest at this time (3) purchase wood which may or may not be available.

The loss of the annual cut from this area may seem small in itself, but the 130,000 cords of sawtimber I mentioned earlier constitute almost a years supply of wood for the Pinkham Lumber Company and work for 400 men and women plus a considerable number of downstream jobs.

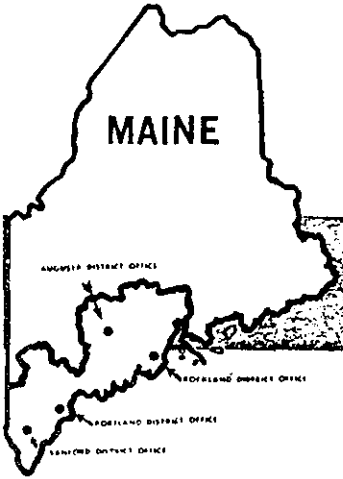
If this country needs Dickey- Lincoln....

and wants to give top priority to wildlife in 100,000 acres of timberlands as a tradeoff....

at a time when there are accelerating demands to withdraw more and more land from the commercail forest base....

at a time when the supply is threatened by the spruce budworm....

the people of Maine should know that all this isn't possible without putting a crimp in the future of the forest products industry---the paper and lumber mills of this State.



News from

CONGRESSMAN DAVID F. EMERY

425 Cannon Building, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515, 202/225-6116

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 11/15/79

CONTACT: GEORGE A. SMITH (207/622-9328)

BEST MITIGATION PROPOSAL - DON'T BUILD DICKEY, SAYS EMERY

AUGUSTA, MAINE-----"The best fish and wildlife mitigation plan would be one that recommends not building the Dickey-Lincoln Dam. That would be the best decision that northern Maine's fish and wildlife could possibly receive," says Congressman David Emery.

Emery released a statement from his Augusta office today in conjunction with Augusta workshops scheduled by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' New England Division to discuss the recently released mitigation plan for the proposed Dickey-Lincoln Hydroelectric Project.

Emery took the occasion to invite all who are interested in conserving Maine's wildlife and fisheries populations to join in supporting his recent proposal to develop small-site hydro stations as an alternative to Dickey. "It is becoming clear," said Emery, "that development of small-sites, as opposed to the Dickey boondoggle, is not only feasible and economical but also the very best route to go to develop new hydro power sources, with minimum impact on our environment. It goes without saying that small-sites would not have nearly the impact on wildlife and fisheries that the Dickey project would have, and indeed, could possibly even be considered beneficial to fish and wildlife in the areas concerned.

The Army Corps mitigation report is totally inadequate from every standpoint," said Emery. "The Department of the Interior's recent analysis called for a minimum of 300,000 acres for wildlife mitigation should the Dickey project be built, yet the Army Corps proposes just 100,000 acres. The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife contends that a fish hatchery would be essential to mitigate the loss of brook trout and other species in the impoundment area, a proposal which is completely ignored in the Army Corps plan. The crux of the matter is that it is virtually impossible to replace the wildlife and fish which will be lost in the flooding, and it is absolutely impossible to replace the habitat which will be flooded and forever lost.

"I can only point out," concluded Emery, "that the Army Corps of Engineers themselves have, however grudgingly, admitted to the inadequacy of their mitigation study plan, with their statement on Page 5 of the plan which says 'The spruce-fir bottom lands in the pool areas and the wildlife which they support are in some respects irreplaceable,' and on Page 56 that 'For the purposes of this plan (fisheries), the mitigation for resource use may not be an attainable goal.'"

Emery also noted facetiously that the mitigation plan did not address itself to the loss of mosquitoes and blackflies which will be sustained within the flooded area, and noted that while some people would not complain about a decrease in the number of mosquitoes and blackflies in the northern Maine woods, these insects would be missed by the species who make them a part of their diet. "But I want to emphasize," concluded the Congressman, "that I am not going to propose a hatchery built for blackflies and mosquitoes to replace those which would be lost by the building of Dickey-Lincoln."

-30-

MAINE OFFICES

PORTLAND OFFICE
Federal Building, Room 2047
151 Forest Avenue
207/775-1424

ROCKLAND OFFICE
Federal Building, Room 200
Limerock Street
207/594-2900

AUGUSTA OFFICE
46 Sewall Street
207/622-9328

SANFORD OFFICE
118 Main Street
207/324-7521

My name is Tom Eubanks and I am the Wildlife Specialist for International Paper Company. My Company owns timberlands in both the proposed Dickey-Lincoln reservoir area and in the proposed fish and wildlife mitigation area.

International Paper Company's position has been -- and still is -- one of opposition to the Dickey-Lincoln School Lakes Project. We do support small, regional hydro-electric projects in Maine, such as the Lincoln School hydro-electric concept. These projects have a low head power generation base and do not create a large reservoir on the natural river systems. They also have a lesser impact on timber and agricultural lands, and wildlife resources of the State of Maine. The power generated from small, regional hydro projects will benefit Maine 100% rather than sacrificing Maine's resources for developing power for out of state use.

International Paper's Androscoggin Mill is rebuilding two old low head dams on the Androscoggin River -- one at Livermore and one at Riley -- to start generating electric power from these sources. The Central Maine Power Company has recently announced an expansion and improvement of one of their hydro power developments on the Androscoggin River in Brunswick, Maine. These developments require no mitigation for they do not impact upon the timber and fish and wildlife resources. These are the kinds of developments that will provide the most benefit to Maine.

The fish and wildlife mitigation lands which are recommended for the proposed Dickey-Lincoln project require the acquisition of approximately 100,000 acres of productive forest land. This includes about 28,000 acres of IP lands.

The rationale which requires federal taking of private land in order to solve wildlife problems is not the solution. More intensive game management is a solution for reduced game population, and one IP strongly supports and believes in.

International Paper cannot, in good faith, accept a fish and wildlife mitigation plan which requires a government take-over of private land for a limited management objective. Our lands are managed for multiple use, which includes an objective of improving the game management on these same lands.

The philosophy of mitigation appears to ignore the exchange taking place between terrestrial and aquatic biomass. Intensive management of newly-created bodies of water, impounded for power generation and flood protection, would provide opportunities for a tremendous increase in fish population and the development of wetland habitat, including waterfowl. The impoundment then becomes a highly desirable recreation area for boating, fishing, waterfowl hunting, and bird-watching. The intensive management referred to assures that the waterfowl and game fish will be present. This concept is, in itself, a mitigation of the problem, for we have now exchanged one recreation opportunity and form of wildlife for another. Government acquisition of private land now becomes unnecessary. The fact that we see a mitigation solution in the impoundment area does not, however, in any way reduce our opposition to the Dickey-Lincoln School Lakes project.

International Paper is willing to offer a counterproposal to mandated acquisition in order to keep these lands in private ownership. We would be willing to sit down with the Maine Land Use

Regulation Commission and the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to work out a cooperative timber-wildlife management plan for International Paper's portion of these properties. To ensure that such a plan would become a reality, we are willing to begin discussions immediately with LURC and Inland Fisheries and Wildlife on such a plan. The Land Use Regulation Commission is charged with resolving land use problems in our State. It should be relied upon for solutions and the federal government should not be involved with our State's land use issues.

Our Company has a viable wildlife organization and active game management program, and my presence on the IP Region VI staff is additional evidence of the Company's commitment to wildlife management. Recently, we have been working out the details for a wildlife development and research project with Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for long-range wildlife planning on one 15,000 acre tract of IP land. Hopefully, another operational research project concerning deeryard management will be forthcoming within the next two years to consider the many unknown factors in timber and deeryard management.

These examples illustrate the long-term commitment and concern one landowner has for the welfare of wildlife on privately owned lands. It is in the interest of every landowner to become more involved with the wildlife and fisheries resources. We know that we, as landowners, together with the State of Maine, can effectively manage these lands for both timber and wildlife without federal acquisition and the spending of so much of the taxpayers' dollars. It is also possible that the Corps would be willing to fund part of this cooperative project through the State of Maine.

I ask your consideration of my Company's proposal.

ADDENDUM "E"

5 Lawrence Avenue
Thomaston, Maine
November 15, 1979

To: Officer in Charge
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England Division
424 Trapelo Road, Waltham, Massachusetts 02154

From: Ormond A. Staples, President, Ducktrap Chapter Trout Unlimited
5 Lawrence Avenue, Thomaston, Maine 04861

Topic: Fish & Wildlife Mitigation Plan, Dickey- Lincoln School Lakes

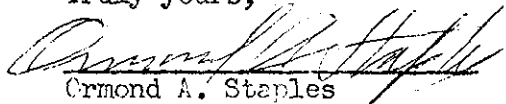
Dear Sir;

A review of the Army Corps of Engineers' preliminary Fish & Wildlife Mitigation Plan intensifies the belief held by all members of the Ducktrap Chapter of Trout Unlimited group that the entire Dickey-Lincoln project is unsound in both environmental and economic trade-offs. The proposal to acquire a minimum of 100,000 acres of land from private sources (mainly large paper companies) for intensive wildlife habitat management as compensation for the loss of 85,000 acres of river valley land (including 26,000 acres of deeryard) is seen as undesirable, impractical, and possibly unattainable. Indeed, it is foreseeable that the mere attempt of acquisition could evolve into another version of the current Indian land claims fiasco, taking years to resolve, with increasing litigation fees the only predictable certainty. It is unconceivable to us that outlined terrestrial plan for forest management could be more than a half forgotten dream by the end of the first cutting cycle. The degree of realism present in the cost estimates to taxpayers for acquisition and management of the proposed tracts can best be judged by noting the interest rates used in the Corps' calculations- $3\frac{1}{4}\%$ and $7\frac{1}{8}\%$.

The mitigation plan for fisheries we see as a futile effort to mitigate the unmitigatable. The impressive appearing discussions and computations which presumed to estimate possible changes of brook trout populations can only serve to obfuscate the true dismal future of the species should the dams be built. We do find ourselves in apparent agreement with the Corps that a 6.2 million dollar hatchery at Dickey-Lincoln, as proposed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service is not warranted. While we appreciate the positions of federal and state conservation officials whose jobs are to make the best of a bad situation, we cannot, as taxpayers, endorse the construction of such an edifice. We feel that if the Dickey-Lincoln project is completed, the area's sport fishery will be irrevocably lost.

Finally, the entire report can most clearly be viewed as further valid evidence that the Dickey-Lincoln Project cannot be justified by the returns that will be produced, especially when seen from the viewpoint of Maine citizens. The military community has long been accused of arrogant wastefulness of economic and physical resources. The Army Corps of Engineers can only add to this image by continuing its advocacy of the Dickey-Lincoln hydroelectric project.

Truly yours,


Ormond A. Staples

B. FisheriesIntroduction

Fisheries management will be needed for Dickey Lake and for the area downstream from the Lincoln School Dam. The purpose of management is to provide for utilization of the potential fisheries resources associated with the project by managing those resources to provide the maximum numbers of fish. The presence of mercury and selenium in fish taken from the project area was detected during studies by the Corps of Engineers. Further investigations are being conducted to determine the impact of these metals on the potential fishery in the reservoir. However, this section will deal only with mitigation and/or compensation of the existing fishery.

1. Fish Hatchery

A fish hatchery will be needed to provide salmonid (lake trout, landlocked salmon, brook trout) species for initial and maintenance stocking. A hatchery and rearing station has been recommended to provide about 430,000 young lake trout, 160,000 young salmon, and 20,000 catchable size brook trout annually at a cost of \$6.2 million for construction and engineering, \$150,000 annually for operation and maintenance costs, and \$110,000 for salaries of seven people.

Lake trout and salmon would be allocated to the reservoir while the brook trout, and possibly some salmon, would be stocked in the tailrace area.

2. Pre-Operational Stage

This stage of reservoir operation begins when the Dickey Reservoir starts to fill and would end generally when the pool is full. This period would last about four years, starting the fifth year after construction commences.

During the early part of this period hatchery construction should be nearing completion. The full numbers of fish destined for the reservoir would not be required until the pool reaches one-half to three-quarters of its full capacity. This means that hatchery construction scheduling should have an objective of reaching full production by about the 7th construction year.

No fish stocking during this period is contemplated. Reservoir fishing would be dependent upon species existing in the area including brook trout, possibly some landlocked salmon, and other species such as brown bullhead, and yellow perch.

Two fishery management biologists, one of which would be a fishery project leader, would be employed at this time. The salaries shown below (USCSC Salary Table No. 63, 1977) supersede those given in the Conservation and Development Report (USFWS, 1978):

One Fishery Leader	GS-11	\$21,883
One Fishery Biologist	GS-9	<u>15,090</u>
		\$36,973
Overhead (30%)		<u>11,092</u>
		\$48,065 (\$48,000)

The duties of the fishery biologists, during the pre-operational stage, will be to:

a. Monitor the fish populations in Dickey Reservoir, Lincoln School Reservoir, and in the downstream reach to assess fish populations and to detect potential fishery problems. Develop special regulations if required to improve fishery utilization and fish populations. Make final determinations of fish species suited to the reservoir.

b. Survey tributary streams to assess potential migration and spawning of fish and provide solutions to any problems.

c. Assess fishing pressure and take any necessary actions to improve the sport fishery.

3. Post-Operational Stage

This stage begins when the reservoir pool is completely filled. Also, by this time, the hatchery should be completed.

Investigations and management would require two additional fishery biologists. The fishery management unit would then consist of the following: (Salaries and grades from USCSC Salary Table No. 63, 1977.)

One Fishery Leader	\$21,883
Two Fishery Biologists	<u>30,180</u>
Two Fishery Biologists	<u>24,672</u>
	\$76,735
Overhead (30%)	<u>1,021</u>
	\$77,756 (\$100,000)

The duties of the fishery management unit will be essentially to continue the same tasks as those of the pre-operational stage.

1. Mitigation Lands

The fisheries biologists also will be responsible for fishery management of streams, lakes and ponds that lie within wildlife mitigation lands. Management will consist of protection measures to prevent degradation by siltation from logging activities, maintenance of streambank and lakeshore vegetation, monitoring of fish populations and utilization by fishermen.

The management activities will be carried out in accordance with policies of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

C. Cost Summary: Wildlife and Fisheries

The costs shown here are estimated costs of mitigation based on 1977 dollars. They supersede those provided in the Conservation and Development Report (USFWS, 1978). Salary costs are taken from the USCSC Salary Table No. 63, 1977. If the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is selected as the managing agency, salary costs may be slightly less.

1. Wildlife

a. Mitigation land (160,000 acres @ \$125/acre, if acquired in fee)	\$20,000,000
b. Road construction, 10-year period (250 miles @ 12,000/mile)	3,000,000
c. Management (costs include salaries, facilities, equipment and other operation and maintenance costs)	
Wildlife habitat (105,200 acres @ \$4/acre/year)	420,800
Deer yards (54,800 acres @ \$6/acre/year)	328,800

2. Fisheries

a. Hatchery construction (completed @ year 6)	6,200,000
Operation and maintenance	150,000
b. Office and storage space	264,000
Operation and maintenance	8,000
c. Hatchery personnel (needed year 6 thru year 100)	110,000
d. Fishery biologists	
Through construction year 8	48,000
Year 9 to year 100	100,000



CO-SPONSOR

MAINE FOREST PRODUCTS COUNCIL

146 State Street
Augusta, Maine 04330
(207) 622-9288

Officers

Rand N. Stowell, President
John G. Sinclair, Vice President
Richard M. Pierce, Treasurer
Reginald B. Elwell Jr., Secretary

To: The Army Corps of Engineers
Re: Appendix K, Fish & Wildlife Mitigation Plan
Dickey - Lincoln School Lakes, E. I. S.

The mitigation plan, as outlined at the workshops on November 15, 1979 and as described in Appendix K, does not appear in any way to lessen the severity of the proposed destruction of many thousands of acres of natural wildlife habitat which would occur if the hydroelectric dam project is undertaken.

Neither does the mitigation plan's proposal for timber harvesting lessen the impact of the disruption of the area's commercial timber operations which will result from the massive withdrawals associated with the main dam project and flooding. On the contrary, the mitigation plan simply takes another 100,000 acres out of commercial management and production.

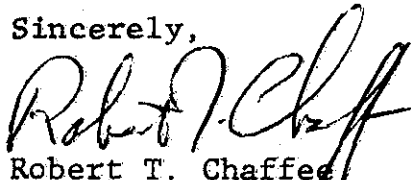
In order to mitigate the extensive destruction of wildlife habitat necessary for the construction of the dam project, it would be necessary to provide new similar habitat. Logically, this would entail opening up land to provide habitat which does not already serve as such. It is obvious to anyone who has been in the area concerned that the 100,000 acres in the mitigation plan already provide habitat for fish and wildlife.

The Corps claims of raising the number of wildlife units in the 100,000 acres through intensive management efforts is deceiving, even if such a plan meets the minimum criteria of the appropriate legislation. The kind of management necessary to mitigate the habitat destruction from the project would simply result in the creation of a totally artificial environment on the 100,000 acres. The mitigation plan, therefore, proposes to further reduce the amount of natural wildlife habitat in the area which currently exists under the present multiple use management techniques being employed by the private landowners.

The Maine Forest Products Council represents some 675 landowners, loggers, truckers and processors in Maine. Among the landowner members are most of the landowners whose lands are contained in the mitigation plan proposal. Many of these owners voiced their own objections November 14th at the workshop in Augusta. As Mr. Carlisle from Prentiss & Carlisle pointed out, the forest products industry is already suffering the loss of countless acres of timber resources as a result of other problems and issues ranging from unresolved land claims to insect infestation and land policy regulation. The Dickey-Lincoln School Lakes Project, and accompanying mitigation plan, could quite easily be the proverbial straw which breaks the camel's back.

In light of these factors, the Maine Forest Products Council must once again register its opposition to the hydroelectric project itself and certainly to the ill-conceived wildlife mitigation plan presented at the November 14th workshops.

Sincerely,


Robert T. Chaffee
Executive Director

ADDENDUM "H"

FORMAL RESPONSE
to the
DICKY-LINCOLN SCHOOL LAKES
FISH AND WILDLIFE MITIGATION PLAN

for the
DICKY-LINCOLN SCHOOL LAKES
HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT PROPOSED FOR CONSTRUCTION
in
AROOSTOOK COUNTY, MAINE

SUBMITTED BY
NATURAL RESOURCES COUNCIL OF MAINE
335 Water Street
Augusta, Maine 04330

TO THE NEW ENGLAND DIVISION,
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

NOVEMBER 28, 1979

GENERAL COMMENTS

1. These comments are presented by the Natural Resources Council of Maine, Maine's largest environmental and conservation organization.

2. After reading the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Dickey-Lincoln School Lakes Fish and Wildlife Mitigation Plan and after attendance at the November 15, 1979 workshop sponsored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, one is left with the inescapable conclusion that the draft mitigation plan fails to respond to the concerns, data and alternatives submitted by responsible and knowledgeable persons and agencies.

3. The irretrievable loss of over 200 miles of the best free flowing brook trout streams and their surrounding unique habitats is totally unacceptable to NRCM.

4. The mitigation plan is presented in language that is nearly incomprehensible in sections. There is much rhetoric and unnecessary wordage.

5. The mitigation plan does not adequately compensate Maine for wildlife and fisheries losses and falls far too short of replacement.

6. Alternative energy projects which would eliminate the need for Dickey-Lincoln, would require considerably less mitigation of fish and wildlife impacts. This plan fails to consider the desirable aspect of those alternative projects.

FISHERIES MITIGATION

BROOK TROUT

1. The plans for mitigation of fisheries in the St. John area is inadequate as, by the Corps' own admission, it will not create good fishing conditions in the reservoir area. The biomass concept of fisheries mitigation; i.e. the replacement of fish pound for pound, is strenuously objected to by NRCM. The quality of the fishery must be mitigated; the importance of the finest brook trout stream fishery in the United States must not be overlooked or mitigated on a biomass pound for pound basis.

2. Natural generation of brook trout will not be possible in the "pool" area. We agree with the USF&WS and MDIF&W that natural regeneration in feeder streams will not supply the pool with adequate stock. The inevitable and extensive yellow perch competition and predation will frustrate any attempt to create a brook trout fishery.

3. Another solution to brook trout generation is the building of artificial channels for spawning habitat. We totally oppose such a plan as destructive of other values of those streams.

LAKE TROUT (TOGUE)

1. Lake trout can survive competition from predatory fish such as yellow perch and suckers but water level fluctuation will adversely affect natural spawning and again an annual stocking program would have to be administered.

2. The Corps rejects the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and USFWS insistence on a hatchery for trout and other potentially viable species. Natural regeneration is nearly impossible due to the annual 22 foot draw-downs. A hatchery certainly makes practical sense as a means of fingerling production. But even this is inadequate mitigation because it has been estimated that "Dickey Lake" would have only 1% of the togue productivity found in some other Maine lakes.

3. The Corps emphasizes lake fishing as a replacement for over 200 miles of unequalled brook fishery. Maine certainly does not need another lake. The Corps also is cognizant of the high mercury content in most lake trout now in the St. John region. It is presumed that this is due to natural causes. However fish sampled in the region has shown mercury levels far above the accepted FDA levels for human consumption. The Corp has not addressed this problem properly. It is also a fact that newly impounded reservoirs become natural "sinks" for mercury in the first several years.

WILDLIFE MITIGATION

DEER

1. The projected plan for the mitigation of the whitetail deer habitat which would be flooded entails required unrealistically intensive timber harvesting activities and forest and wild life management. The Corps plans to replace only 68% of the deer habitat units to be lost during and after project construction.
2. They assume that the whitetail deer population is either stabilizing or being diminished by "cooler temperatures and harsher winters" and by increased mechanized and large scale cutting of conifer shelter areas. The implication of worsening and persistently harsher winters in the St. John region is not supported. NRCM rejects this prognosis of naturally dwindling deer populations.
3. The Corps also admits to its limited information on deer wintering habits and habitats and is overly optimistic in its projection of mitigation through management of Allagash lands. The 13,500 acres of deer wintering yards to be acquired is much too small an area for proper mitigation of deer.
4. The Corps assumes a maximum management potential of 100 for projected habitats. This seems extremely ambitious and basically non-attainable as management for certain species to 100 must mean decreased habitats for other species. United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) most ambitious management potential is in the 81 to 80 range.
5. In an attempt to solve the problem of overbrowsing in the deer yard area surrounding the Dickey pool special hunting seasons are mentioned over a three year span to harvest deer in the area to be flooded and also timber in the vicinity of deer wintering areas to provide high quality browse. In this last solution, the Corps explains, "the degree to which deer can and will tolerate increased exposure and energy expenditure to follow attractive food sources will probably depend on the severity of the winter". The overbrowsing solutions in mitigation lands point to the weakness of the Corps plan. The suggestion is either to kill the deer in potential flood areas or cut down their sheltered areas, leaving them at the mercy of the increasingly "cooler temperatures and harsher winters".

MOOSE

1. As for the moose, the Corps claims they will be benefitted by the habitat management plan as the winter browse areas will be increased. This does not make sense when compared to Corps recommendations for deer wintering yards.
2. Moose are better adapted to deep snow and less dependent on shelter areas than deer and they browse to greater tree heights. This means unfair competition for the limited browse and shelter areas.

BLACK BEAR

1. Black bear will be adversely affected by the increased human activity in the area and by the extensive forest management planned to coincide with the browse and shelter areas of the whitetail deer.

2. Bear are "deep woods" creatures. The proliferation of logging and access roads will create additional problems for them. Provisions of quarter mile corridors along waterways for bear conflicts with plans for wetland mitigation by the beaver.

FURBEARERS

1. Lynx, bobcat, fisher and marten need dense forest cover and the Corps has undertaken a two year study of their members and needs. Their habitat carrying capacity will decrease through this plan and the Corps seems to anticipate this by claiming a presently reduced cat population in the project area. A mitigation plan which does not compensate for the loss of furbearers is totally inadequate.

WETLANDS

1. The Corps wetlands mitigation plan is highly dependent on beaver activity. Wetlands are supportive of wildlife and have excellent habitat values. Because wetlands in the acquisition areas will be in scant supply, the Corps dependence on their mascot, the beaver, seems to place a heavy burden on this furbearing species. As the beaver will be busy building wetlands, the Corps feels they will benefit greatly from their plan. Indigenous waterfowl will also depend on the beaver to provide them with nesting and feeding habitats. The forest management plan for beaver habitat is inadequate. Beaver need more mature tree interspersions for proper biological development.

2. NRCM rejects the creation of artificial wetlands by means of log booms, gravel concrete channels, pot hole digging in shallow marshes and the creation of artificial nesting sites. This plan to create artificial wetlands in the St. John region will not work because of the severe northern climate, intense ice scouring and the inaccessibility for maintenance of man-made bogs and marshes.

TERRESTIAL MITIGATION

TIMBERLANDS

1. The timberland management plan for wildlife habitat does not adequately evaluate the severe spruce budworm infestation. It is difficult enough to manage forests for commercial timber production with the onslaught of spruce budworm. The proposed intensive forest management for maximum wildlife habitat in view of the budworm epidemic will be impossible to implement.

TRANSMISSION LINES

2. The Corps has not addressed the disruption to be caused by transmission lines. This will lie in the jurisdiction of the Department of Energy but should have been included in any mitigation plan. Increased habitat units in the transmission area are implicated. This strikes us as unlikely. It fails to consider the effect of routine herbicide applications to power line corridors and the impact of this herbicide on wildlife.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative hydroelectric projects described by the Northern Maine Regional Planning Commission, Congressman David Emery and others, point the way towards development of smaller hydro-generating facilities in northern Maine. These would be more economically feasible and the environmental impacts far less devastating than the Dickey-Lincoln proposal. The slight fish and wildlife impacts of these projects should be compared to the unacceptably high impact of the Dickey-Lincoln project.